



OPPORTUNITY SNAPSHOT

DIRECTOR OF PASTORAL THEOLOGY AND CARE Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA)

Overview

The EFCA Department of Theology, Credentialing and Care is expanding to include a new Director of Pastoral Theology and Care role, which will report to and work alongside Executive Director Greg Strand. The primary goal of this position is to develop, promote and give visionary leadership to EFCA Pastoral Care Ministries and to ensure all EFCA district superintendents, pastors and support staff have access to practical resources and pastoral care to enable them to serve with excellence.

The Big Idea



The EFCA has a long tradition of being theologically driven and caring for pastors. The annual Theology Conference brings together EFCA leaders from across the country to teach and strengthen on theological matters. The right individual for this role will be someone with a heart for pastors, who brings vision and takes action to provide focus and balance in the practical theology of pastoral care in collaboration with district superintendents and district staff partners. This leader will have a lot of "blue sky" when it comes to elevating the theology of care for EFCA pastors in practical ways. The value, ideology and theology for care is strong, but leadership of this practice area is in need of some new ideas, freshness and hands to accomplish the work. Being a visible partner to district superintendents and teams, and a champion of pastoral health and care throughout the EFCA, this individual is in a position to proactively give practical, meaningful help in moments where difficult topics such as crisis, hurt, discipline and recovery are at the forefront.

The Position



The key result areas for this position include pastoral care, Recovery Churches, EFCA Pastor Search for local churches, credentialing and chaplains. Additionally, this person will represent EFCA Theology, Credentialing and Care through counsel and guidance as a participant on the Board of Ministerial Standing, as chair of the Benevolence Committee and member of the Ethics Committee, and as a liaison with the EFCA Network. He will graciously uphold and align with the EFCA's theological distinctives and doctrinal positions.

The Candidate



The ideal candidate for this position will be a seasoned and experienced pastor and leader who genuinely loves the EFCA and expresses a clear calling to help those called to pastoral ministry. A great fit for this role is someone who can offer wise counsel to others that is grounded in biblical theology but flows from experience in the shaping victories, defeats and challenges of life in Kingdom ministry. Given the sensitive nature of some of the work, it is essential the selected candidate be a person of high integrity, moral character and trustworthiness who keeps confidences. He will listen to others, be warm and approachable, and have an ability to easily connect with people in different kinds of settings. Humble yet firm as needed, he will shepherd people, teams and situations with care, not making the hard places harder, but clarifying next steps and fostering hope and faith in the redemptive heart of God.

The Location



This position will be based out of the EFCA National Office, conveniently located in Bloomington, Minnesota. Bloomington is home to the renowned Mall of America and adjacent to the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. The Twin Cities area offers a strong economy, affordable housing (compared to other large cities) and tremendous natural beauty. The area is rich in parks and lakes, providing ample opportunities for outdoor activities year-round, from boating and kayaking in summer to pond hockey and snowshoeing in winter.

The Qualifications



A committed relationship to Jesus Christ and passion to see ministry leaders within the EFCA healthy, supported and cared for well. Spiritually mature faith and wisdom that has been tested and proven through experience in life and ministry. Ordained or able to be ordained in the Evangelical Free Church of America. Master of Divinity degree or higher. Ideally, 10 years of experience in pastoral ministry in a local EFCA congregation. Active member of an EFCA congregation.

Next Steps



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